WASHINGTON

Reception of the Spanish Ambass dor by the President.

SPEECHES ON THE OCCASION.

A Lawsuit Growing Out of the Inauguration Ball.

The Caterer Claims Half the Proceeds.

Discussion in the Senate on the Rights of British Shipowners During the War.

Startling Speech of Senator Sprague on the Tenure of Office Act.

TOO MANY LAWYERS IN CONGRESS

Passage of the Indian Appropriation Bill in the House.

Debate on the Treaty Making Power.

WASHINGTON, March 19, 1859. Nomination of a Second As-

members and was of short duration. A t is said, but no nominations were sent to the Sen-ate, except that of Mr. William A. Richardson to be

te, except that of Mr. William A. Richardson to be econd Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. Mr. dehardson is at the department, and has already egun to make acquaintance with his duties.

The Caba and St. Domingo Questions.

The House Committee on Foreign Amairs had a secting to-day and considered the Cuba and St. omingo questions. A letter received from the ecretary of State in reply to the committee's request for information relative to the condition of agreed to postpone the subject until the next ag of the committee, when it is expected the Department will be in possession of later and

enate consumed another day in ventilating are of Office bill, without arriving at a vote s favoring suspension occupied most of the day, presented no arguments throwing new light on mestion. A story is told of the bill, on its origion one occasion that the Tenure of Office bill was was arraid to impeach the President, prophesied that trouble would spring that bill. Such is likely to be The speech delivered by Senator ost of our public men. His speech to-day abling in form, but the matter it contained carried on almost exclusively by hair-and long-winded lawyers, determined h to open his mind about what he but had hardly proceeded a sentence or two when at the Senate was composed of too many lawyers ak of it! Flat biasphemy as ever saluted the cars of Justice Dogberry. Too many lawyers! Did ever such an idea enter the head of any Senator before? The business people—the people of wealth, worth and standing—should be more fully represented, contended the Senator from Rhode Island. "What did lawyers know of the real and material "Their time was given to making confu-sion worse confounded, and their minds ran in a narrow, constrained and pettifogging chanran in a narrow, constrained and petulogging chan-nel of thought. They had now taken hold or this Tenure of Office act, and were expending all their ingenuity to befog the question at issue, to seize ad-ditional power under the disguise of securing the equipolse of the government and shielding the equipoise of the government and "All sham in people from Executive encroachment. "All sham in substance," continued Mr. Sprague. "The House of has half the Lords, nor any other legislative body, has half the power possessed by the Senate of the United States, and yet they clamor for more, and for why? Why, to build up an aristocracy of power, an oligarchy of tyrants and monopoly of legislation." He (Mr. Sprague) would rather trust one man elected straight m the people than a body of many men elected
State Legislatures. He would sooner
k for the exercise of humanity and
ne degree of responsibility to one tyrant than
a conspiracy of tyrants. And so on Mr. Sprague to a conspiracy of tyrants. And so on Mr. Sprague continued spreading his extremely novel if not distanted the property of the lawyers, though not pretending to be any very great legal light himself. His speech, in its humor, raillery and happy style of invective, might be said to have demolished Sprague; but Nye desired no such result, and evidently admired the shock of the mount of the control of the contr

mired the pluck of the young Rhode Island Senato in bearding the whole Senate to its face. Nominations Confirmed by the Senate.
The Senate to-day in executive session confirmed my three nominations, as follows:—

John Titus, United States Judge for the Territory of Arizona.

Dudley W. Haynes, Pension Agent for Brooklyn and New York, vice Porter, resigned.

The Departments Besieged by Office Seekers.

The Secretary of War was besieged with visitors this morning, many of them being applicants for his infuence with the President in support of their solicitations for office. The Secretary is, however, unwilling to give his attention to any matters of a public character, except those pertaining entirely to his own department. Secretaries Creaswell and Boutwell and Commissioner Delano experience no retief from the demands of office seekers.

Facilitation of Government Despatches

Facilitation of Government Despatches
Through the Mails.
Postmaster General Cresswell has addressed the
following circular to the several members of the
Cabinet, with a request that the names and signatures of the chief clerks of the respective bureaus be
furnished the city Post Office for the guidance of the
contrastic in carrying out the order.

Postmaster in carrying out the order:—

With a view to facilitate the transmission by mail of official communications emanating from the Executive departments in this city and the bureaus, therefore it is ordered that authority be given to the chief clerks of the bureaus of all the Executive departments to frank official mail matter emanating from the bureaus to which they are attached.

J. A. J. GRESSWELL, Postmaster General.

The practice heretofore has been to stamp a face simile of the officer's signature upon the envelope, but under the late law the signatures must be autographic, and the authority to sign by the above

the postal telegraph system, returns home this vening, well satisfied with his success. The Senate committee, after a full examination of the postal elegraph, unanimously reported a bill to establish the system, but too late in the session for it to be attending except for a short time. The Western Union Telegraph Company are adopting some features of the system, and are introducing their operators into post offices where they can do it rent free. The friends of cheap telegraphing will continue to agitate the subject through the press and by public meetings, and confidently believe that when the system is understood it will commend itself to the public and Congress, and that the year 1500 will systems the inauguration of the postal tele-

Mr. ROBERTS-I am happy to receive you as the

strengthened, will be cordially reciprocated by me. The Way the Money Goes.

In March, 1865, Representative Schenck engineered through Congress a resolution giving his relative, Powell, the artist, \$25,000 to paint another big picture for the adornment of the Capitol. Powell is said to have received \$10,000 of the amount already, but has given no evidence that he has even commenced to put paint to the canvas. Senator Morgan some time ago asked for information on the subject, and received answer that the artist, after four years' grace, was not yet prepared to report progress. The same artist is responsible for the famous picture of De Soto, now in the Capitol, on which the flags are flying in different directions, and for which he received an additional \$10,000.

The Prespective Consul to Liverpool.
Captain F. Colburn Adam, of Von Toodieburg fame, is to given the consulship to Liverpool. Captain Adam, it is believed, has the support of a large number of Senators and Representatives, and enjoys the favor of General Grant and several mem bers of the Cabinet. It is supposed that he will be nominated and confirmed without opposition. He is a gentleman in the highest degree fitted for the position.

Ball.

The inauguration ball has left a lawsuit in prospect. The committee having charge of the affair, it seems, agreed to give Mr. Grey, the caterer, one-half the proceeds for supplying the supper. Now, however, the committee, finding the profits so steep, refuse, it is said, to stand to the bond, and want the caterer to receive less than he bargained for. The latter don't see it in the same light, and has William S. Huntington, transurer of the committee, to back

S. Huntington, treasurer of the committee, to back him up. The caterer, in consequence, threatens to institute a lawsuit to establish his rights.

Illness of Mrs. Grant.

Mrs. Grant has not been enjoying her usual good health during the past day or two, and to-day was too much indisposed to receive callers. Her illness is not of a serious character, and by to-morrow it is

is not of a serious character, and by to-morrow it is expected she will have completely recovered.

Contributions to the Conscience Fund.

Treasurer Spinner to-day received the following contributions to the conscience fund:—\$500 from St. Joseph, Mo.; fifty dollars from New York city and ten dollars from Philadelphia.

A New York National Bank Refuses to be a

Government Depository.

A communication has been received at the Treasurer's office from the Fifth National Bank, of New

York, resigning their authority to receive deposits as a government depository, and asking permission to receive back their securities.

Death of a Pension Clerk.

Dr. H. C. Lauck, Chief Clerk of the Pension Office, died this morning of consumption.

Discontinuance of the Military Guard at the

of the military guard at the White House, which has been on duty for the last four years, under Captain McKeeyer, and that hereafter the protection of the

The following are the customs receipts from March to 13 inclusive:—Boston, \$329,282; New York. \$2,569,896; Philadelphia, \$128,507; Baltimore, 207,208; San Francisco, from February 1 to 15.

Treasury Bailding.
Superintendent Rice, of the Treasury Building, is engaged in taking an inventory of the stock and

During the month of February, 334,473 pounds of chewing tobacco were shipped, in bond, from the city of Richmond. The tax was prepaid, however,

The following gentlemen were, on motion, to-day admitted to practice as attorneys and counsellors of this court:—Henry B. Hammond and Clark Bell, of New York; Obadiah F. Strickland, of Utah; Wm. A.

The debate at present going on over the Tenure of Office act would lose most of its interest at any other time than the present but that just now this city happens to hold over 5,000 office seekers, and General Grant in the White House stands mutely waiting but not appealing for something to be done enabling him to carry out his design of conducting the govern-ment with economy and retrenchment. The debate, as a purely forensic affair, has been a great success; it a purely forenest affair, and been a great success; it has exercised the legal acumen as well as the keenest talent for sophistry among the ablest minds of the Senate. Edmunds parried Morton's thrusts with the skill of an accomplished fencer.

"The Tenure of Office act was passed to check a bad President, and but for that would never have

bad President, and but for that would never have become a law, and should therefore be repealed," was the gist of the arguments on the side of the repealers; but could anything have been more seductively and plausibly convincing than Edmunds' retort—"The English Magna Charta was adopted by the barons to restrain a bad king; but who called for its repeal through the reign of any good king that followed?" Right, Edmunds; but the Magna Charta brought liberty and its attendant blessings to the people; the Tenure of Office act brought only profit and power to a few score Senators and trouble and vexation to the people.

and vexation to the people.

The men who spoke in the Senate during the past The men who spoke in the Senate during the past three days in favor of only suspending the act and against its repeal were some of the best and highest lawyers of the party. No one will question the legal and logical mind of Edmunds, the force and common sense of Howard, the delicate and sublicial theorism of Howe, the twanging tropes and studied syllogisms of conkling, the brilliant fancy and captivating reasoning of Carpenter, and the quet self-possessed and luminous intellect of Trumbull; yet all these men seemed to feel a consciousness of defending a weak and self-condemned cause. Nevertheless they made the most of it, and if their side fails no one can say it was through lack of extraordinary ability. Sherman and Morton were the towering spirits of the movement for repeal, and fought their fight with bristling array of arguments. The torrent of Suerman's speech resembled the rapids of Niagara river. He fairly leaped down were turn with crushing force on the weak platform of his opponents. The reasons came so thick and fast to his mind—and well they might, for a time there was when Sherman exercised his best energies to defeat the enactment of the law—that quick as his utterance naturally is it failed to furnish an outlet for the trooping thoughts of the speaker.

The atmosphere of the Senate has been decid edly

Washington (March 16), correspondent of the New York Sun, is urged by friend here for Collector of the Port of New York. It is said that President Grant and Secretary Boutwell holder. Dans in high estimation, and there is goo reason to believe that the latter will succeed Msmyth. Mr. Tracy, now District Attorney for the Eastern district of New York, is here seeking it position of Courtney, Attorney for the Southern district. W. A. Merriweather will be appointed Units States Marshal of Kentucky, and Aubrey Smith, It said, will be appointed District Attorney of the Eartn district of Pennsylvania, Mr. Bailey, Collect of the Seventh pistrict of New York, is named a candidate for the position of Deputy Commission.

THE FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, March 19, 1869. Mr. FESSENDEN, (rep.) of Me., presented petition

THE PREEDMEN'S BUREAU. Mr. Wilson, (rep.) of Mass., from the Committee on Multary Affairs, reported a bill relating to the Freedmen's Bureau, which was passed. It cones the Educational and Collect

ASSOCIATE JUDGE FOR THE BASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS. Mr. FERRY, (rep.) of Conn., introduced a bill to

establish the office of associate judge for the Eastern district of Texas. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

NEW OBLEANS MARINE HOSPITAL.

Mr. Kellogg, (rep.) of La., offered a resolution, which was agreed to, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to transmit any information in his possession regarding the present condition of the Marine Hospital at New Orienns.

CONSIDERATION OF BUSINESS FROM CERTAIN COMMITTERS.

Mr. Hows, (rep.) of Wis, called up the order offered by him yesterday, setting aside Friday in each week for the consideration of business from

each week for the consideration of contact certain committees.

Mr. TRUMBULL (rep.) of Ill., hoped that the order would not be adopted, because its adoption would indicate an intention to prolong the present session. He thought the Senate ought either to agree to adjourn on the day named in the resolution of the House, or very soon afterwards.

Mr. Howe said the object of the order was to avoid the necessity of struggling for the floor from day to

day.

The Senate refused to take up the order by a vote of 13 to 23.

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ADJOURNMENT RESOLUTION.

Mr. WILSON moved to take up the House resolution fixing the time of adjournment, but at the joint suggestion of several Senators withdrew the motion.

DIVORCES IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.
On motion of Mr. TRUMBULL, the bill concerning divorce cases in the District of Columbia, and the bill regulating the rights of married women in the District of Columbia, were taken up and passed.

FURCHASE OF INDIAN LANDS BY SETLERS.

Mr. POMEROY, (rep.) of Kan., from the Committee on Public Lands, reported, with amendicials, joint resolutions enabling actual settlers to purchase certain Cherokee and Osago Indian lands, and extending the time to construct the St. Croix and Lake Superior Railroad.

RIGHTS OF SETTLERS ON PUBLIC LANDS.

Mr. CASSEBLY, (dem.) of Cal., from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill amendatory of the act to protect the rights of actual settlers on the public lands approved July 27, 1868.

The bill provides that Agricultural College scrip shall be received from actual settlers in payment of pre-empidon claims in the same manner as bounty land warrants, and that all locations of such scripmade within thirty days after the passage of said act, if otherwise in conformity with the law, shall be deemed legal and valid.

LAND GRANTS TO A NEBRASKA RAILROAD.

Mr. Tipton, (rep.) of Neb., introduced a bill granting lands to aid in the construction of a rail-road from Limoda, Neb., to Denver, Col. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

AID TO WISCONSIN AND MINNESOTA RAILHOADS.

Mr. RAMSEY, (rep.) of Meb., introduced a bill granting lands to the States of Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, to aid in the construction of railroad from Menome river to St. Paul and from Green Bay to La Crosse. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. RAMSEY, (rep.) of M. Y., Introduced a bill to

Lands.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF STEAMBHIP BUILDING.

Mr. FENTON, (rep.) of N. Y., introduced a bill to encourage the building of steamships in the United States and to provide for the transportation of the United States mails to Europe by such vessels. Reterred to the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads.

ferred to the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads.
It directs the Postmaster General to contract with the North American Steam Navigation Company for a weekly service from New York to Antwerp; with the Commercial Navigation Company for a service in conformity with the act of July 27, 1888, between New York and Liverpool, and between New York and Liverpool, and between New York and Bremen; and with the American Steamship Company for a semi-monthly service between Boston and Liverpool, together with any other companies, so that there may be four departures per week of mails to Europe.

ME. DRAKE, (rep.) of Mo., submitted an amendment in the nature of a substitute for the bill to reorganize the judicial system lately reported from the committee.

therefore, incompetent to represent hantainly inclivered interests and necessities of the great mass of the people. Of sixy-six members of the Senate forty-five were lawyers, and of the twenty-one remaining five had received a legal education, and most of the few remaining members were guided and governed by lawyers and their teachings. In the house the preponderance of members of this profession was even greater than in the Senate. Some States had no other representatives. This was a most unwholesome state of affairs. He was not one of those who worshipped the political system transmitted to us by our fathers or attributed to it our great material growth. The mainsprings of our prosperity had been slavery and foreign immigration; the former had stimulated the growth of cotton and made it an American monopely, and so had built up the manufacturing and commercial interests of the North, and these had in turn invited foreign immigration. The politicians had, of course, had something to do with the promotion of each of these great interests; but all they had accomplished, after all, was the building up of two great powers for mutual destruction. The politicians had never been willing to let the people know the true state of the country. They had failed to warn them of the approach of the lase war and had plunged them find it unprepared. The politicians still adsered to the same blind policy, but he had already done something to let the people know the true condition of the country and he meant to do more. The object of the majority in Congress seemed to be rather to perpetuate the existence of a party than to promote the weisare of the people, but no party could have his support which did not make the prosperity and contentment of the people its chief object. A party which failed in this tailed in the great purpose for which alone it had a right to exist. In conclusion, he said he was in favor of repealing the Tenure of Office act in any tyranny he preferred the tyranny of one man with some humanity in him, and oc

executive session.

At twenty minutes to five o'clock the Senate went nto executive session and soon thereafter adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, March 10, 1869. PUPLOYMENT OF CLERKS TO COMMITTEES. Resolutions for the employment of clerks to the Committees on Naval Affairs, Invalid Persions and of the District of Columbia were introduced and re-ferred to the Committee on Accounts.

Mr. PAINE, (rep.) of Wis., introduced a bill to re-fund to the city of Milwaukee \$15,000 for moneys advanced for the improvement of the harbor. Referred to the Committee on Commerce, SOUTHERN LANDS SOLD FOR TAXES,

SOUTHERN LANDS SOLD FOR TAXES.

Mr. JULIAN, (rep.) of Ind., introduced a bill providing that agricultural lands sold for the non-payment of taxes in the lately recellious States be disposed of only in sub-divisions not exceeding forty acres each, and that no greater portion shall be disposed of than is actually necessary to discharge the legal obligations. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. JOHNSON Mem.) of Cal., introduced a substi-

Mr. Johnson, (dem.) of Cal., introduced a substi-tute for the Senate bill to protect the fur and seal

Mr. Wood was rejected, and the clerk proceeds with the reading of the bill, which was occasional intercupted by the offering of amendments, which brought up the same general question for discussion. At a quarter-past four o'clock the committee ros and reported the bill to the House, and it was there upon passed.

INVESTIGATION OF THE PARAGUAYAN DIFFICULTIES.

Mr. Jung (rep.) of ill., from the Committee or

and reported the bill to the House, and it was thereupon passed.

INVESTIGATION OF THE PARAGUAYAN DIFFICULTIES.

Mr. JUDD, (rep.) of ill., from the Committee on Foreign Afiairs, reported a resolution instructing that committee to inquire into all the directing the highest and Masterman in Paraguay and into the conduct of the late American Minister in Paraguay and the officers commanding the South Atlantic squadron, with power to send for persons and papers and to report at any time.

RATIFICATION OF THE FIFTENTH AMENDMENT BY MASSACHURETTS.

The SPEAKER prosented a communication from the Governor of Massachusetts with the action of the Massachusetts Legislature ratifying the fifteenth article of the amendment to the constitution.

The House then, at twenty minutes past four o'crock, adjourned until Monday.

A NEW PUBLIC BUILDING.

The New Edifice of the Department of Chart-

The New Edifice of the Department of Chari-tics and Correction.

The Commissioners of Charities and Correction have recently erected a very fine new building in this city, at the corner of Third avenue and Eleventh street, at a cost of \$50,000. The edifice has a front of seventy-seven and a half feet on Third avenue, and 100 feet on Eleventh street, and the Commissioners will enter upon the occupancy of their new offices

roof, with a clock tower on Third avenue. Entering from the avenue by a wide door the first room on the right is an antercom, twelve by twelve, from which a folding door leads into the office of the Commissioners, fitteen by twenty feet, which is plainly, but elegantly furnished. Over the mantel piece the Commissioners have placed the picture of Rev. John Stanford, first chapiant of the Almshouse. A consultation room is attached to the Commissioners' office, from which a door leads into the office of the secretary. Joshua Prelps, and the treasurer. This office is fifteen by twenty feet, is furnished with a large fire and burglar proof safe, desks, &c. Thence a door leads into the office of the Superintendent of the Out-door Poor, Mr. Kellock, who does the executive work of the department in distributing the alms, receiving applications for admission muot the institutions, &c. The applicants are separated from the Superintendent by a window, which is reached by four steps leading from the applicants' room, a hall fifty by forty feet, well lighted by windows running around the whole room and reaching from floor to celling, which is on a height with the froof of the building. This apartment is reached at the east end in Eleventh street and to be left by a door at the opposite end. This floor is on a level with the street, but below that of the office floor, which is reached by four steps. Three desks are in that room for the use of out-door clerks. In order to guard against the foul air likely to accumulate in hits room four large ventilators are placed in the floor and walls, connecting with two towers by which the foul air is ejected, while the fresh air is injected by means of heaters.

On the upper floor are four rooms fitted up for offices and the clock room, where the works of the clock are placed, the dial of which faces Third avenue, and is to be illuminated at night.

In the basement arrangements are made for the Janitor's Department, consisting of a reception room for the family, kitchen, bathroom, sleep roof, with a clock tower on Third avenue. Entering from the avenue by a wide door the first room on the